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**AUSTRALASIA AND OCEANIA**

**By Flood and Field.** *Adventures Ashore and Afloat in North Australia.* By Alfred Searcy. 327 pp. Map, ills. G. Bell & Sons, Ltd., London, 1912. 6s.  $8\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{1}{2}$ .

This is a story of adventure on the northern shores of Australia a number of years ago. The book contains an attractive element in the tales of many narrow escapes and the adventures with animals and natives, but as it appears to have been written as a reminiscence, there is the chance that many of the details may have taken on unnatural values. Without doubt an accurate idea of the difficulties of the early traders on these shores may be obtained from the narrative; and the life of the natives, the condition of the country and the labor of the first settlers are vividly pictured.

R. M. BROWN.

**An Introduction to the Geology of New South Wales.** By C. A. Süßmilch. xii and 177 pp. Maps, ills., index. Dept. of Public Instruction, Technical Education Branch, Sydney, New South Wales, 1911. 5s.  $8\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{1}{2}$ .

A little book giving in compact form, primarily for students, an account of the physiography, general geology, and economic geology of New South Wales. Incompleteness of knowledge of the geology of the state makes necessary many gaps in the treatment of the subject. The author adopts the classification of formations used in Europe and North America, but does not believe that formations bearing like names in Europe and Australia were of contemporary origin. In general, the succession of animals and plants in Australia is similar to that in other parts of the world, but with at least two marked differences: (1) the hideous saurians which dominated the land life of the Mesozoic elsewhere are wholly absent from Australia; (2) placental mammals, either as fossils or as living indigenous animals, are also absent, but monotremes and marsupials, both Tertiary and present, are represented on a scale wholly unknown elsewhere. The author considers that there is satisfactory evidence of two glacial epochs in the Pleistocene period, but that the glaciers were of very limited size. There are several colored maps and a large number of excellent illustrations.

R. H. WHITBECK.

**Meine Reise nach den Strafkolonien.** Von Dr. Robert Heindl. 470 pp. Ills. Ullstein & Co., Berlin-Wien, 1913.  $9\frac{1}{2} \times 7$ .

More than half the volume is devoted to a record of the impressions which the author received in the French deportation colony of New Caledonia. He is by no means unmindful of statistics and the machinery of the regulation of prisoners, but the best feature of his study is that he takes a keen interest in the welfare of the criminals, the opportunity which is given them to reform and the attitude of the administration. His narrative abounds in vivacious description of scenes which will do far more than any earlier work upon New Caledonia to present a faithful spectacle of the life of that crime-stained pool of the dregs of French life. Another large section of the volume is given up to an equally interesting account of the Andamans and the British treatment of Indian criminals. The volume will prove quite as attractive to students of geographical literature as it will to penologists. Between these more important chapters is inserted a review of modern prisons in Australia with reminiscences of the former transportation system, a summary sketch of Chinese penal methods and the prison establishment at Ceuta. Jail is surely an odd goal of journeying (he makes a jest upon this theme through failure to recognize the English spelling of jail as gaol); but, no matter what the end, he has succeeded in making a valuable contribution to the knowledge of Nouméa and Port Blair.

WILLIAM CHURCHILL.

**EUROPE**

**The Building of the Alps.** By T. G. Bonney. 384 pp. Ills. T. Fisher Unwin, London, 1912.

Like all the books by Canon Bonney, this beautifully printed volume is written in a pleasing style, and by reason of the author's long and intimate